

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT OF WISCONSIN**

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Plaintiff,

v.

Case No. 15-CR-226

DIAMOND ABBOTT,

Defendant.

**REPORT AND RECOMMENDATION
ON DEFENDANT'S CHANGE OF PLEA**

The United States of America and the defendant, Diamond Abbott, who was represented by counsel, appeared before me for a change of plea colloquy pursuant to Fed. R. Crim. P. 11 on January 11, 2017. ECF No. 138. Ms. Abbott consented to my conducting the change of plea colloquy. I explained that it would be for the U.S. District Judge alone, not me, to enter the plea and that my role was to conduct the plea colloquy and then to prepare a report and recommendation for ultimate disposition by Judge Stadtmueller.

After Ms. Abbott was placed under oath and advised as to the implications of being untruthful, I questioned her about her competency to go forward with the hearing. Through her responses, I found that Ms. Abbott was lucid, intelligent, and not under the influence of any intoxicants or substances.

I then discussed in detail each of the subjects specified in Rule 11, including the rights she would surrender by entering a plea of guilty, the maximum penalties

associated with the charged offense, and the authority of the sentencing judge to disregard any recommendations in the plea agreement and to sentence Ms. Abbott at the statutory maximums. Ms. Abbott fully understood the rights she was surrendering and the implications of pleading guilty. Ms. Abbott was also satisfied that she had received effective assistance of counsel.

At the conclusion of this colloquy, I determined that the guilty plea was knowing and voluntary and was not induced by threats or by promises not contained in the plea agreement. I found that there was an independent factual basis containing each of the essential elements of Count 1 of the Information (ECF No. 131), to which Ms. Abbott was pleading guilty. Ms. Abbott advised that she was pleading guilty to the charged offenses because she was, in fact, guilty and that the government could prove beyond a reasonable doubt that she was guilty of the charged offenses. Finally, I found that, in responding to my questions, Ms. Abbott was candid, respectful, and non-evasive, fully accepting responsibility for and acknowledging the unlawfulness of her conduct.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY RECOMMENDED that defendant Diamond Abbott's plea of guilty be accepted; that a presentence investigation and report be prepared according to the schedule set by the Court; and that Ms. Abbott be adjudicated guilty and have sentence imposed accordingly.

Your attention is directed to 28 U.S.C. § 636(b)(1)(B) and (C), Fed. R. Crim. P. 59(b), and E.D. Wis. Gen. L. R. 72(c), whereby written objections to any recommendation herein, or part thereof, may be filed within fourteen days of service

of this Recommendation or prior to the Final Pretrial Conference, whichever is earlier. Objections are to be filed in accordance with the Eastern District of Wisconsin's electronic case filing procedures. Failure to file a timely objection with the district court shall result in a waiver of your right to appeal. If no response or reply will be filed, please notify the Court in writing.

Dated at Milwaukee, Wisconsin, this 17th day of January, 2017.

BY THE COURT:

s/ David E. Jones
DAVID E. JONES
United States Magistrate Judge